

April 18, 1983

LR 60

what the victims are and the need to help them. So I heartily endorse this resolution.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kilgarin. (Gavel). May we have order in the Chamber please so we can hear the speaker.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Nebraska has been outstanding in recognizing the plight of our victims of crime and I think it is only appropriate that we recognize them this week in Victims Rights Week. For too long I think we have been concerned about the criminal but have left the victim go by the wayside and not be concerned about some of the psychological effects a crime upon them personally or to their home can create for these victims of crime. And I think it is right for the Legislature to recognize some of the things that this state is doing for victims and the advancements we are making in the field of victims' rights and helping those victims of crime once they are criminalized. Sometimes we talk about the criminal injustice system because everything seems to be set up for the criminal, for the offender, but I think Nebraska has recognized that victims need to be informed of what is going on in the courts, that people do care about what has happened to them, and would like to help them. So I urge your support for this resolution recognizing Victims Rights Week. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion on the resolution? Do you care to close, Senator? May we have order in the Chamber please. (Gavel) Courtesy to the speaker.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Just a brief closing, thank you, Mr. President. Part of this purpose of making a big deal of Victims Week is to let those victims of crimes know what is available in the State of Nebraska now and to educate and to inform and, yes, encourage citizens to participate in this endeavor, and so we will have the Governor sign a proclamation later this morning also establishing this as Victims Rights Week, and with this resolution, I think we can show the citizens of Nebraska and encourage the citizens of Nebraska to aid victims in the best way possible, person to person. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The question is the passage of the resolution that Senator Pirsch has introduced and explained. All those in favor of the resolution vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? The question before the House is the passage of LR 60. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 43 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the resolution, Mr. President.